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The annual meeting of subscribers to the Library was held on the 13th April, Rev. Mr. Butcher in the chair. The accounts showed that the subscribers had fallen off by one-half; chiefly owing, it appeared, to the opening of the Club Library; and that the income for the present year would fall £1a. 1000 short of the expenses. After discussing this unfortunate position of affairs, the meeting passed a resolution to the

attributable to temporary depression or to a permanent falling off of interest on the part of the public, the Committee be empowered to confer with the Trustees of the Recreation Fund, with the view of obtaining the assistance necessary to carry on the institution for a further term.

Shanghai is likely at last to have a Museum of the Asiatic Society, a permanent and popular base for the organization of the Asiatic Society of America. O. Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society took the matter in hand, at its annual meeting in February last, and a meeting will be held at London at the end of the month to make an effort to the resolution then passed. We understand that the Trustees of the Recreation Fund have undertaken to donate The £1,000 in per cent. consols for the purpose. The Asiatic Society, while the Asiatic Society provide the funds required for crest expenditure, The Museum will in fact be a department of the Asiatic Society, and will be a permanent and popular base for the organization of the Asiatic Society of America, members, especially as the Asiatic Society.

tion is only \$10. It is intended, we believe, to make the Museum as wide in scope as possible, but the Natural History section will probably prove the most important. The Asiatic Society have been fortunate in securing the services of a Chinese propagator educated by Pore David, and who thoroughly understands the skinning, stuffing, and setting up of specimens. It will add a fresh zeal to up-country expeditions, to know that we have at hand the means of preserving and displaying any curiosities of natural history which fortune may bring in our way.

P E K I N G.  
(N. C. Daily News).

There is so little going on usually, in the

Capital, or at any rate so little reaches foreign ears, that one is driven to the Peking *Gazette* in search of anything worth narrating. And truly some of the edicts which appear there are quaint. Take for instance the *Gazette* of the 23rd. The Board of Ceremonies has addressed the Throne, advising that His Majesty appoint Princes and high-officers to search the persons and bedding (1) of the students, on their entering the Exa-

the first steamer at Tientsin, we now frequently hear them. I am told that the examinations will bring to Peking from the provinces some twenty thousand people—

In my letter of the 24 February, I mentioned that an Edict had appeared in the Peking Gazette of the 1st idem, bearing on a memorial from the Peking Board of Examinations, in which the irregularities committed by two persons (1875) by the provincial literary examiners for the students competing for the degree of Kenjin, in the province of Chihli, in consequence of which the two persons had been degraded (Original Board) the chief examiner, and others were degraded, and removed from their official positions. This action on the part of the Government has, since excited considerable attention, and several of the persons concerned in the affair, both the provincial and the metropolitan officials in the metropolis and the provincial capitals where the examinations for Kenjin are held; as men who are likely to be appointed to high positions, and not as persons who are to be degraded, and to be removed from their official positions. It is not, however, to be supposed that they, even by a poor accident or oversight, allow the slightest discrepancies to escape their notice in the thousands of examination papers laid

taung-pau, Vice-President of the Hsing-lai-jue  
yung, the most popular, has memorialized the  
throne on the subject of examinations, and laid  
before the emperor a series of articles, containing suggestions for the better  
ordering of them in the future.

It is thought, judging from the expected  
results of the examination, that the Tomba on the  
17th April, that Lu-yang-shang may return to  
Tientsin by the 23rd April.

The Peking Gazette of the 1st April appoints  
Chang-shih, president of the board of punishments  
(brother of Chang-ho), Pao-tou, president of the Hunan yuen college (a member  
of the Chang-shan yamen) and two others high officials  
to examine the candidates for the degree of  
students of the province of Chihli, who last year

completed for, and obtained the literary-degree of Keatin and who will this year compete for the title of "The Great Scholar." The Emperor appoints six censors to watch the proceedings.

On the following day, it is announced that the board of War had memorialized His Majesty to appoint high officials to control the camels and horses going with the Court to the Western Tomb. His Majesty had, in consequence, appointed Ghang shih, president of the board of Revenue, and Chang, its vice-president, to accompany the army, and Liang, the president of the Censoria office and Right fleet, officials of the capital, and two other officials, as the superintendents.

During the afternoon of the 1st April, Le Hung-chang called upon Prince Kung and

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made by the solicitude and appointment of high officers, and the circumstances for this size, we can judge of the importance in which these are held by the Emperor and his privy council; and of their endeavors to preserve them. I have seen the system in complete purity.

The weather during the last week has become mild, and we now see the peach trees in blossom, and the willows shooting out their catkins. The grass is green, and the corn is growing; and three evenings back I saw a flock of about two hundred wild swans flying straight north over my residence. All these signs denote that the climate is almost the same as it has some ten and for the spring of 1874. We, at the same time, are unable to forget that to-day is the day of the death of the Emperor. The weather we would to witness if we were now in Old England.

3rd April, 1874.

Why is it flatterer like a microscope P-Barnes magnifies small things.

On the 2nd April, I was taken under the wings of death in the Baladero prison for attempting to assassinate the ex-King Amadeo, has escaped, and the Governor of Madrid has ordered the arrest of all the great officials.







